

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

# IBEW Local 234 Newsletter

The Electrical Worker's Union for Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties

February 2019

## Local 234 Officers:



Andy Hartmann  
Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary

Mike Ihnot  
President

Al Randall  
Vice President

Nick Prelgovisk  
Treasurer

Stephen Slovacek  
Recording Secretary/  
Registrar

Lamont Adams  
Andy Gattis  
Rick Keaton  
Gale Michalek  
Executive Board

## Business Manager's Report by Andy Hartmann

Sisters and Brothers,

On the Inside out-of-work list we have 24 on Book 1, 16 on Book 2, 12 on Book 3, and 2 on Book 4. There are 2 on Book 1 and 1 on Book 2 for Sound & Comm. There are 9 on CW Book 1 and 45 on CW Book 2. There are no Inside apprentices on the out-of-work list.

The IRS has issued the 2019 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical, or moving purpose. Beginning January 1st, 2019, the standard

mileage rates for the use of a vehicle is \$0.58 per mile, up from \$0.545 in 2018. Also effective January 1st, 2019, the minimum wage in California has increased to \$12.00 per hour.

For your taxes for 2018, the standard deduction for each filing status increased dramatically, meaning far more families will claim the standard deduction rather than choose to itemize. The new standard deductions are:

- \$12,000 for single filers (up from \$6,350)
- \$24,000 for joint filers (up from \$12,700)
- \$12,000 for married filing separately (up from \$6,350)
- \$18,000 for heads of households (up from \$9,350)

The child tax credit has been raised to \$2,000 per qualifying child, those who are under 17, up from \$1,000. A \$500 credit is available for dependents who do not get the \$2,000 credit.

The state and local tax deduction (SALT) is now limited to \$10,000 per return (\$5,000 if you are married filing separately). That means you can deduct state and local taxes, including property tax, up to \$10,000 on their return.

Unreimbursed work expenses is just one of several miscellaneous itemized deductions that have been eliminated for 2018. Other miscellaneous itemized deductions that were eliminated include tax preparation services, investment fees, and employee business expenses like travel, meals, clothes, education, and union dues. To be deductible, the total amount of any miscellaneous expenses must exceed 2 percent of a person's adjusted gross income. The alimony deduction will be eliminated for any divorce commencing after December 31, 2018.

Are you thinking about purchasing an electric vehicle (EV)? The California Clean Vehicle Rebate Project has a tool available to determine incentive programs available for the purchase or lease of a clean vehicle. Visit [goo.gl/qku8o7](http://goo.gl/qku8o7) to calculate your savings from buying an electric vehicle.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Local 234 will be holding a Blood Drive on **Saturday, March 30th** with the American Red Cross. You can hold the power to save lives in the palm of your hand with the FREE Red Cross Blood Donor App! Text "BLOODAPP" to 90999 or download it from the App Store<sup>SM</sup> or Google Play<sup>TM</sup>.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Local 234's 50th Anniversary will be on **February 29, 2020**. Our Local was formed on March 1, 1970. Locals 1072 (Monterey) and 243 (Salinas) were amalgamated to form Local 234. We will be holding the anniversary festivities at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Tickets will be \$50 each.

**Monday, February 18th** is President's Day and a Holiday for the Inside, CECWs, and Sound & Communications.

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Electricians, Solar, Energy Efficiency, Green Jobs  
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The Electrical Worker's Union for Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito County. Electricians, Solar, Energy Efficiency, Green Jobs

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Joined May 2009

Photos and videos

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221 1,700 1,672 99 Follow

Tweets Tweets & replies Media

**IBEW 234** @ibew234 · 15 Nov 2018  
Local 340 Camp Fire Relief Fund

# Christopher Burditt Memorial Scholarship

February 2019

IBEW Local 234, in partnership with the Burditt Family, is offering **three (3) \$1,000** scholarships to high school graduates – one each in Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito County, who will graduate during the current school year and who meet all qualifying criteria.

To apply, a student must have at least one present or past union member, **of any affiliation**, in his or her immediate family and type an essay of approximately **500 words** on **one** of the following topics:

- What is the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and what has it done to enhance organized labor?
- Why is the organized labor movement important in the United States today?
- How has the union movement played a key role in the life and well-being of my family member who **is or was** in a union?

Essays must be typed and mailed with a completed Application Form to:

**Christopher Burditt Memorial Scholarship Essay Contest  
10300 Merritt Street  
Castroville, CA 95012**

Entries must be **received by Friday, March 15, 2019**. IBEW Local 234 will judge essays for content, clarity, and originality. Proof that application requirements are fulfilled, including graduation, will be required, as will proof that the winner enrolls in a university, college, junior college, or other institution of higher learning in the summer or fall of **2019**. No essays will be returned. IBEW Local 234 is not responsible for any entries that are not received or are damaged before being received.

The announcement and application form are available for download on our website **[www.ibew234.org](http://www.ibew234.org)**. Please share with any interested students.

## Financial Literacy for Construction Workers

Do you have a budget? Having a budget is a good idea and can lead to financial well-being. When planning a budget you should pay your expenses first, set aside money for savings, pay down any debt, and set money aside for fun. What expenses do you have? Both fixed and variable. What surprises can you plan for? Unexpected car repairs is an example. What's your weekly income? Have you reviewed your paycheck recently for accuracy? Your income should exceed your expenses otherwise you'll end up in debt. A great way to save is to have money automatically deducted from your account and put into a savings account. When it's automatically deducted, it makes it super easy and you don't risk the chance of spending the money on something else. When saving a good rule of thumb is to save 3-6 months of your income. This is a great rule for those of us in construction, which tends to be cyclical in nature. Saving is difficult and challenging for most people. If you can start saving as little as \$10 a week, that can add up over time.

Do you use credit cards? How much is your balance on each card? Do you pay off the amount each month in order to avoid interest and fees? If not you might consider NOT using the credit card. Credit cards can be convenient but can lead to easy spending. Even the little things, like a cup of coffee each day, can add up over time. Use this idea to your advantage to save instead of racking up debt. Avoid credit cards that charge an annual fee.

When was the last time you checked your credit score? A FICO score can be between 300 and 850. Higher than 690 is what you should aim for. The number one factor in having a good credit score is paying your bills on-time.

## Tri-County Electrical JATC Training News

(831) 633-3063

### Foreman Development Series Class

**Foreman class**, taught by Instructor Stephen Slovacek, is scheduled for **Mondays, February 11th and 25th from 5:30-8:30pm**. You are welcome to attend one class or as many as you like in this series, each class is a different topic. This is a (3) hour class.

### 2017 NEC Significant Changes Class

Instructor David Martinez will be leading the way through the Significant Changes of the 2017 National Electrical Code. Drop on in! You are welcome to attend one class or as many as you like in this series. This is a (3) hour class. The next class is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 19th at 5:30pm**.

### CALCTP Class



**California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program (CALCTP)** with Instructor Stephen Slovacek. This class is a total of 50 hours: 10 hours of lecture and 40 hours of lab. The class schedule will be coordinated with those in attendance.

YOU MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF COMPLETING THE ONLINE COURSE PRIOR TO THE FIRST CLASS. Email your proof to [stacy@tricityjatic.org](mailto:stacy@tricityjatic.org). Students will not be allowed to attend the class if they have not completed the online coursework. Go to [bit.ly/IBEW234CALCTP](http://bit.ly/IBEW234CALCTP) to get started today.

There is a \$125 stipend available upon successful completion provided by the Monterey Bay LMCC.

### CALCTP-AT Class



**California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program-Acceptance Testing (CALCTP-AT)** with Instructor Stephen Slovacek. This class is a total of 32 hours. The class schedule will be coordinated with those in attendance.

The prerequisite for this class is completion of the 50 hour CALCTP. An application form must be completed prior to starting class. To register for this class there is a \$225 application/record maintenance fee. Go online to [goo.gl/qkW7AI](http://goo.gl/qkW7AI) to complete an application and pay the application/record maintenance fee.

There is a \$125 stipend available upon successful completion provided by the Monterey Bay LMCC.

### EVITP 3.0 Class



**Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) 3.0** with Instructor Stephen Slovacek. This class is an 18+ hour course. It is a prerequisite for EVITP that you are a California Certified General Electrician. As a bonus, there is a \$125 stipend available upon successful completion provided by the Monterey Bay LMCC.

# Congratulations on Completing Class

February 2019

## Significant Changes on January 15th with Instructor David Martinez:

Jim Shumaker, Brian Stanley, Ron Zych, Steve Luiz, Robert Melgar, Javier Guzman, and Andy Hartmann

## CPR/First Aid on January 26th with Instructor Merralinda Goddard:

John Barber, Stephen Christensen, Matt Craddock, Sabyn Cupples, Mohammed Garaan, Erik Guerrero, Javier Guzman, Nick Jackson, Anthony Kalstrom, David Martinez, Jose Melgarejo, Steve Rios, Jack Russo, and Jeff Singer

## Milwaukee Apprentice of the Month

The Apprentice of the Month program is sponsored by Milwaukee Tools. The goal is to encourage apprentice participation and reward a high performing student for achieving outstanding results both in the classroom and on the job.

For **February 2019** the JATC has chosen to recognize:

### 5th-year: **Ivan Garcia**

as the Milwaukee Apprentice of the Month. The apprentice of the month will have a dedicated parking space at the Training Center and also receive a gift provided by Milwaukee.

## App for Apprentices

There is a FREE app for apprentices to use to daily record their on-the-job training. Use the app instead of using a browser. Search the app store for the **ISAQR**. It is available for Apple and Android.

Apple Store: <https://goo.gl/GxYXtk>

Google Play: <https://goo.gl/LqvSt7>

The app is free to download. Start using it today! In addition to their OJT hours, apprentices are also able to see their evaluations, certifications, and grades.

## ElectricPrep

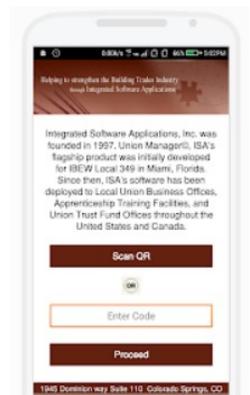
In an effort to help better prepare students for the electrical apprenticeship, ElectricPrep has partnered with the NJATC/ETA to offer voluntary courses to support applicants during the entrance process for the IBEW/NECA apprenticeship training program. ElectricPrep helps provide a better understanding of the electrical construction industry and the requirements.

If you know of anyone that is interested in applying to the apprenticeship have them check out the resources at [www.electricprep.com](http://www.electricprep.com).

## Next Aptitude Test

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

We have an Aptitude Test scheduled for **Saturday, February 23, 2019**. Contact Stacy at (831) 633-3063 if you are able to volunteer for either a morning session or afternoon session or both. A minimum of three proctors are needed for each session.



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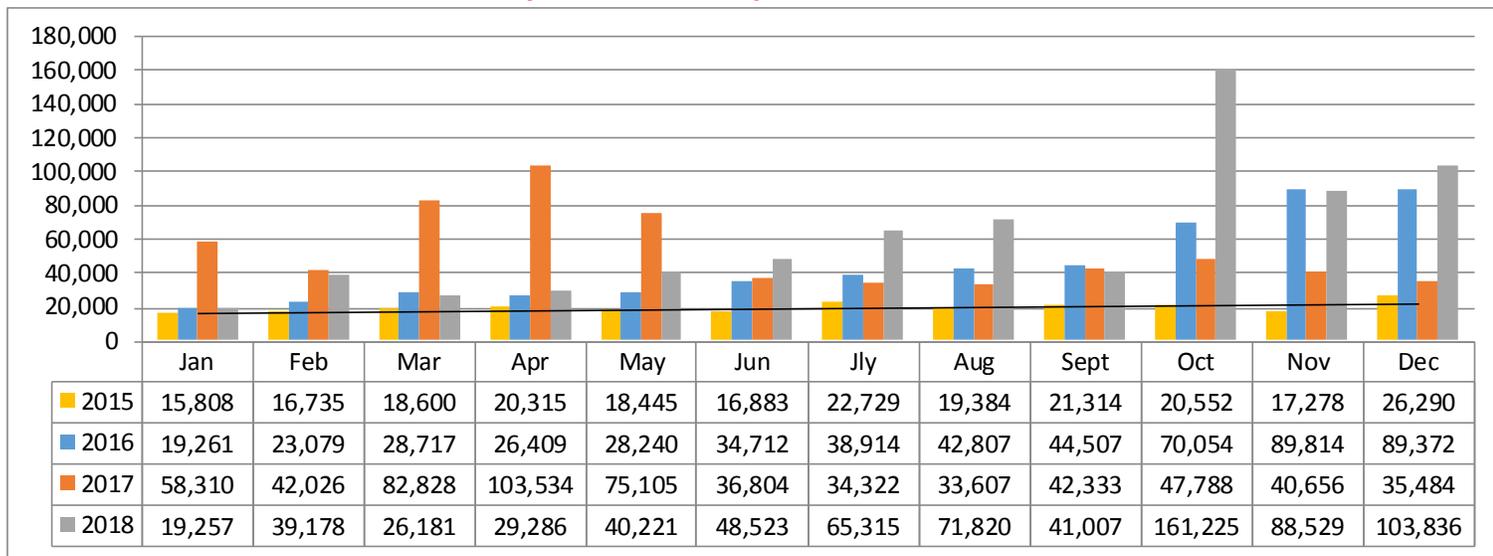
## Save the Date

Save the date for our annual Local 234 Family BBQ and Health Fair on **Saturday, September 28th**. It will again be at the Buckeye Picnic Area of Toro Park off Highway 68. Call (831) 633-2311 to RSVP. Let us know how many adults and kids will be attending. This event is free to attend. Parking will be \$2 per person and per animal.

## Inside Orientation Class

There will be an Inside Orientation class on **Wednesday, February 13th @ 5pm** prior to the general membership meeting. Dinner is included. New (and seasoned) members and spouses are encouraged to attend. Orientation is designed to help new members feel welcome and comfortable as members of the IBEW. This class will give a better understanding of the values and functions of the IBEW, help members learn about their roles and responsibilities in the union, and educate members about our rights under our collective bargaining agreement. Contact the Hall at (831) 633-2311 to reserve your place.

## Monthly Hours Report



## Happy February Birthdays!

Javod Barnes  
James Brown  
Stanley Chen  
Elijah Crockett  
Pedro Espinoza  
Macario Felix  
Tiah Fields  
Lance Flenoid  
Ira Franklin  
Erik Fritz  
Mohammed Garaan  
Florencio Garcia  
Ivan Garcia Ponce  
Richard Giovannoni  
Jonathan Goddard  
Steve Guyton  
BJ Heading

Clifford Jackson, Jr  
William Jackson  
Rick Keaton  
Keith McCants, Jr  
Eric Mendez  
Jorge Mendoza  
Ulises Mendoza  
Alan Minami  
William Moore  
Andrew Murray  
Joshua Murray  
Michael Nickals  
Samuel Perez  
Fryda Ramirez  
Gilbert Ramirez  
Richard Regier  
Steve Rios

Paul Rivas  
Gerard Rogers  
Keith Rudd  
Larry Sain  
Robert Scardina  
Charles Scott  
Daniel Silva  
Carlos Souza  
William Stadtmiller  
Theodor Teman  
Per Trondhjem  
Heber Tuazon  
Derek Webster  
Yolanda White  
Christopher Ybanez



# This Month's Local 234 Winners!

The winners from the **January** union meeting.

## Voluntary PAC (Political Action Committee):

No one put their name in to win \$5.

## Apprentice Give-Away:

David Durbin won \$23.40.

## Give-Away Winners:

Andres Laureano won an IBEW 234 belt buckle.

Kevin Rategan won an IBEW 234 No-Dog level.

David Durbin won an IBEW 234 t-shirt.

General membership meetings are the second Wednesday of each month. The next general membership meeting will be:

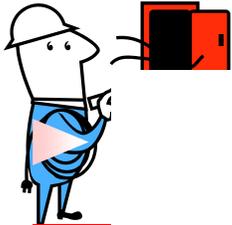
**Wednesday, February 13th, 2019**

**@ 6:30 pm**

## Quote of the Month

*"The most important thing in the world is family and love."*

*- John Wooden*



# February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Foreman Class @ 5:30pm	12	13 Orientation@5pm Membership Meeting @ 6:30pm	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16
17	18 HOLIDAY PRESIDENT'S DAY	19 JATC @ 5pm Significant Changes @ 5:30pm	20	21	22	23 Aptitude Test
24 End of Pay Period	25 Foreman Class @ 5:30pm	26	27 Executive Board @ 6pm	28		



# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234



NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
IBEW LOCAL 234  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
CASTROVILLE, CA  
PERMIT NO. 410

## **IBEW Local 234**

10300 Merritt Street  
Castroville, CA 95012

[www.ibew234.org](http://www.ibew234.org)

(800) 499-4239

(831) 633-2311

(831) 633-0570 fax

[thehall@ibew234.org](mailto:thehall@ibew234.org)

(831) 633-JOBS (5627)

Jobline

## **Tri-County Electrical JATC**

[www.tricountyjatc.org](http://www.tricountyjatc.org)

(831) 633-3063

(831) 633-3068 fax

[info@tricountyjatc.org](mailto:info@tricountyjatc.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

